



RIDAWIYYAH

HIDDEN TREASURE OF KNOWLEDGE

Charismas of Taj al-Shariah

تاج الكرامات رحمة الله عليه



Compiler & Translator:

Muhammad Ahmad Raza al-Qadiri al-Nuri

❁ Charismas of Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ ❁

مصحف الخزانة والدار المعرف

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Charismas of Taj al-Shariah

A concise collection and Anglospheric translation of the charismas of Taj al-Shariah Mufti Akhtar Raza Khan رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ

MUFTI AKHTAR RAZA KHAN

(d. 1439/2018)

Translation and compilation done by

Muhammad Ahmad Raza al-Qadiri al-Nuri



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The sanctified prolegomenon



All praise to Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى, and this is the greatest knowledge and a great collection of his abundant favours, for multiplying His extensive bounties, the primest of pearls.

Blessings and salutations be upon the preeminent leader of all the Messengers; my master, my intercessor, the most praised among all Messengers, the most honoured ones in the creation; Sayyiduna Muhammad صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

By Allah's سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى grace, I initiated with the hallowed prolegomena of Ala Hazrat al-Imam Ahmad Raza Khan رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ the same way he started his canonical work, but that I shortened and translated it into the English language.

Before you, you see a concise collection of the charismas [*karamat*] of the great saint and faqih of his time; Huzur Taj al-Shariah Mufti Akhtar Raza Khan al-Qadiri al-Azhari رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ. I felt the desire to compose and translate a few narrations about his charismas into English, as viewed by his *murideens* in a quick and simplest readable manner. Which would be a means, even for those who are not fond of reading books or long texts, to be instilled with a deeper connection with Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ.

This is by no means a detailed biography of Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ, rather I have emphasised on merely his charismas experienced by those around him. Then, to fulfil the purpose of simplicity, I shortened and

paraphrased cluttered and elongated reports without losing the implication [mafhum] of the narration as viewed by the narrator himself.

Moreover, this is not a complete work but still under progress, as I intend to expand the current collection of narrations, which will be—Allah ﷻ willingly—published later, nevertheless, the already collected narratives will be publicised on the memorial day [urs] of Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ [June 2020], on the suggestion of a dear incognitus of mine.

I want to manifest my gratitude to Allah ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ for allowing me to draw my breath in their path, as well my *murshid* Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ for his myriad metaphysical succour in engramic and unknown things. Then my dear incognitus; one who suggested me to compile and publicise the narrations into a booklet. Then to my beloved brother who is currently threading the path of knowledge, Muhammad Abdul Mannan Qadiri Saheb for taking his precious time to go through all the words from beginning till end—may Allah ﷻ make him a great scholar! And the team of Ridawiyah Letters who took care of the layout, design, typesetting, and everything needed to publish it.

At last, may it be accepted through Arif Billah al-Imam Mustafa Raza Khan Nuri's رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ merits as a means of mercy to me, my parents, the aforementioned people, my family and all faithful deceased. And may I be allowed to thread a congruent path again until my last breath.

الأستاذ محمد احمد رضا القادري النوري المستريدي عُفْرَلَه

۴ رَجُوبُ الثَّانِي ۱۴۴۱ – 25th of June, 2020

Amsterdam, the Netherlands

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1. People chuckled at hearing this

One day it was raining a lot and Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ went to a certain place, until they came to an impasse where they had to cross the water, but there were no boats available.

Mawlana Ghulam Jabir Shamsi Misbahi Purnuwi relates,

Boats for hire were absent, Mawlana Nuri hastily ordered a carriage. We let Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ sit on it, four scholars or four like scholars lifted it on their shoulders, we crossed the water until we could let him sit. Huzur who was Jamaal inside, but filled with Jalaal on the outside, said: “Ya Allah! People are brought on a carriage after death, you people have brought a living being.” People chuckled at hearing this. People came, heard, and chuckled heartily. Even to the extent that this incident spread in all directions, whoever heard it chuckled. Even today, people bring back the memories, making the lips smile. [1, p. 150]

2. Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ grabbed one of his hands

Mawlana Mansur Faridi relates,

After the Maghrib prayer, people showed that they wanted to sit in a congregation, so he [Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ] sat in this spot. One of the people under the congregation was someone named Sultan Ahmad. As he approached, Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ grabbed one of his hands. What happened? All those present were dumbfounded, because what will happen next? It is not known what he did wrong. We were still in this puzzle and Hazrat's other hand was already raised to the face and beard of Sultan Saheb. And in an extremely kind, lovingly filled manner, he said, “The hair of the beard on the face should not be cut off that much, for this also falls within the confinement of a legal beard. This should not be trimmed in the future.”

I was perplexed as he was [known as] a worthy, strict scholar of his time, for his proximity makes one shiver. [1, p. 138]

3. I saw this all happening while he was not awake

Hafiz-o-Qari Muhammad Sadiq Hussayn relates,

I was fortunate to serve Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ while he was resting in al-Haj Ghulam Sarwar's home. I gave an oil massage on his head. While I was absorbed in my own way, I saw a particle fall on his feet. Suddenly I stared at his palms, I trembled for a moment, like what is happening! What are my eyes observing! I cannot understand it! How can his fingers move while he was in a deep sleep? I alerted Mawlana Abd al-Wahid Fathpuri and others, they were all amazed as he moved his fingers as if he were reading Tasbih, and I saw this all happening while he was not awake. [1, p. 140]

4. That one moment

Mawlana Mansur Faridi relates,

In 2003 during the Urs of Huzur Mufti al-Azam, Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ and Mawlana Shuaib Raza Saheb were guests. I was also present in the crowd, suddenly I felt in my heart the desire to sit with him, because that will certainly brighten my happiness. Drowned in this inspiration, I stood at the door of the residence, just like me, countless lovers stood there. Suddenly the door opened and a voice was heard, "Who is Mansur Faridi, let him in." At that moment I couldn't believe what I heard, because was I actually called up? But my heart said, "Yes, it is you!" My eyes were completely wet by the abundant happiness. I wiped my tears, went in and sat at his feet in his service after being gifted with salaam and a handshake.

To this day I think about it again, its memory calms my heart as how my desire was fulfilled. [1, p. 141]

5. Huzur! My wife keeps having miscarriages

A person came to Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ and asked, “Huzur! My wife keeps having miscarriages. The pregnancy comes, but after a few days or months it drops. Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ said, “Bring seven needles.” I was present with seven needles. Huzur made taweez and gave it. That taweez had so much influence that it declined the miscarriages and got us a baby. [1, p. 136]

6. Heavy raindrops were already coming and everyone got wet

On June 22, 2008, Qari Abdul Jalil Saheb told this faqir that five years ago Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ was invited to a graduation conference in Dar al-Ulum Hanifa Ziya al-Quran Lucknow. In those days it did not rain for quite a while, a severe famine was going on. People asked Hazrat to pray for rain. Hazrat performed the prayer of rain and supplicated. He was only supplicating while heavy raindrops were already coming and everyone got wet. [1, p. 136]

7. He wanted the women of the household not to burden themselves for him

Sharf-e-Millat Hazrat Sayyid Shah Ashraf Miyan Barkati said he was present in the Khanqah [Barkatiyya] during the cold winter of 1992. He heard Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ arrive and went out to meet him. When Hazrat visited his noble parents [Ahsanul Ullama] (Allah sanctify their secrets), a full breakfast was prepared. Sharf-e-Millat says, “I also wanted to prepare it, but Hazrat Azhari Miyan said not to make an effort for him.” Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ gave him a wrapped gift and was told to give it to his noble mother. He drank the tea with difficulty and left. Sharf-e-Millat

says: “When he left, I suddenly thought that this day is the end time of my noble mother’s iddat. It is from ancient family tradition that at the end of the iddat the family comes along and shows sympathy. Even then I thought why Hazrat Azhari Miyan left so without breakfast. In reality, he wanted the women of the household not to burden themselves for him.” [1, p. 133]

8. All difficulties immediately disappeared

Mawlana Muhammad Mubashir al-Islam Nuri says: “I remember that at that time [Urs in Madinatul Ullama Ghosi Sharif] in the bustle, a stone from the mosque fell on the head of Mawlana Muhammad Anwar Ahmad Razvi, and he was injured. Hazrat approached and put his merciful hands on his head, the blood stopped shedding, and all difficulties immediately disappeared.” [1, p. 132]

9. State of Sujud

Mawlana Muyn al-Din relates, Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ was being transported with a car to a place when suddenly the car capsized. Everyone was spread but we found Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ, Alhamdulillah, in a state of prostration [*sujud*]. And nothing happened to him. [1, p. 127]

10. Given a lot by my Gawth al-Azam رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ

Pir Tahir Allamah `Ala al-Din Saheb, a famous Arabic posterity of Ghawt al-Azam, praised Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ in a gathering in the Arabic language. Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ asked the Pir Saheb for a supplication. The Pir Saheb replied, “Akhtar Rida, what can we supplicate for you. Your grandfather Allamah Ahmad Rida Khan Saheb has received so much from my grandfather Gawth al-Azam that you may keep taking from the same treasures, distributing it and it will not get empty. And your Mustafa Rida Khan Saheb Mufti al-Azam al-Hind is also given a lot by my Gawth al-Azam.” رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ [1, p. 124]

11. I have never worn a chain watch again

Hafiz Muhammad Shams al-Haq Razvi relates,

I remember the moment in 1995 when I went to Delhi from Mubarakpur with Hafiz Muhammad Muslim Ashrafi. We were lucky enough to meet Huzur Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ at Delhi station. At the time, I was wearing a chain watch. So, Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ said, “The watch you are wearing, perhaps you also read it with your prayers.” He then kindly explained the whole issue to me and concluded not to wear a chain watch. At that moment I took the chain watch from my hand. To this day I have never worn a chain watch again. [1, p. 121]

12. Trust in Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى, whatever Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى is going to do, it will be better

Mufti Shuaib Raza Qadiri رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ related in his speech,

We arrived at Harare airport in Zimbabwe to catch a flight to another city. Due to the postponement, the airport organization said, “The plane was already on the runway. It is now not possible to go with it.” While addressing Hazrat they expressed concern that there will be no other flight either. This will affect the program, [as] many people will be gathered. What won’t be the condition of the program organizers? Hazrat said, “Trust in Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى, whatever Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى is going to do, it will be better. There is nothing to worry about.” A few minutes passed and the people from the airport organization came with a car, they said, “Come on let’s go. It is unknown why the plane was returned after it had been on the runway, perhaps with the purpose of taking you.”

In Udaipur, a regional airline plane was returned for the minister only once after it had been on the runway. And to this day I have not heard or seen a

similar incident anywhere, but that it was Hazrat's miracle that an airplane would return after its launch. And we thanked Allah ﷻ while sitting in the plane. [1, p. 96]

13. Why can't his Janasheen and Khalifa be in two places at the same time?

In 2013 Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ travelled with his son Mawlana Asjad Raza Qadiri, supervisor of Jamia al-Raza Bareilly Sharif to Africa, Tanzania, Harare, Zimbabwe, Malawi and so on to preach. On their return to Malawi, one incident has been attributed to Hazrat's living miracle. It is said to the writer that Muhammad Aslam Mirza Razvi came to me and we embraced, and he said, "Where did you pray?" I said, "I prayed in so-and-so mosque. Hazrat performed the Juma prayer there." Aslam Mirza performed his Juma prayer in another mosque. There he saw Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ performing the very Juma prayer and also shook and kissed his hands. Aslam Mirza Saheb who sees him in his mosque and Hazrat praying in another mosque is in fact no less than a huge charisma. At the same gathering, someone said that Huzur Gawth al-Azam Shaykh 'Abd al-Qadir al-Jilani al-Baghdadi رَحِمَهُ اللهُ could manifest in 70 places at the same time. Why can't his Janasheen and Khalifa be in two places at the same time?

Aslam Mirza Saheb, seeing this charisma of Hazrat, immediately went home and took his wife and children to pledge allegiance in the safe and true hands of Hazrat. And he awestricken all people as he shared his own testimony. He says, "That day my love and affection increased by thousands of levels." [1, p. 95]

14. This was the acceptance of Hazrat's supplication

The son of Mawlana Hashmet Ali Khan Pilibhiti رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ، Mawlana Ahmad Mashud Raza passed away on September 19, 2015. Hazrat was informed of his death that Mawlana Ahmad Mashud Raza Saheb wrote in his will that Hazrat should perform his funeral prayer. At the time, the road from Bareilly to Pilibhit had deteriorated severely. Apart from the fact that the road had deteriorated badly, Hazrat agreed to lead the funeral prayer. Barkat Raza Qadiri Barkati also attended the funeral prayer. On our return from Bareilly, he said, "I read in one of the hadith collections that if it rains after a funeral prayer, the deceased will be forgiven." I asked Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ، "While leading the funeral prayer, can you also supplicate for rain, so that through the blessings of this mercy, the entirety of the forgiveness may be gathered for my late uncle Ahmad Mashud Raza Saheb." Hazrat led the prayer with 25,000 people and while looking at the sky alone, the raindrops already became visible and suddenly started to rain. All this was the acceptance of Hazrat's supplication and proof of the deceased's virtue. [1, p. 87]

15. I would have little time left to live

Aziz Abdullah Razvi works at a computer company. The doctors told him he had cancer. He reached from Bareilly to Delhi, where he went to test himself at Tata Cancer Hospital. Everyone told him he had the disease of cancer. Immediately he went to his Pir-o-Murshid Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ and wept. Hazrat asked, "Why are you weeping?" The servant said, "Huzur, the doctors told him he has cancer. The test report says there are visible signs of cancer." Hazrat said angrily about the doctors, "The doctor is false, and the doctor's report is also false." Then he indicated to come closer. Hazrat continuously prayed over him for a while. Now, a few months earlier, I, the writer, while I was going home, I saw him on the way. I asked him how he was. He said: "The day Hazrat prayed over me, the same

day I felt very calm and the disease of cancer was gone. Now, the report shows no sign of cancer at all. All of this is the effect of my Pir-o-Murshid's supplication, otherwise my household wouldn't understand that I would have little time left to live. But this is a living charisma of my Pir-o-Murshid, since I am here by your side standing healthy, and I also joined the company and I am doing my job very well." [1, p. 86]

16. The prayer has been performed within its time

On March 11, 2015, Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ travelled by train to Banares. During Isha they reached Lucknow train station. Before they arrived at the station, Hazrat went to the bathroom. When he was finished with his need, the train arrived. While Hazrat came out of the bathroom, the train did not leave at that time, but in a few minutes, it started to move. Hazrat ordered to roll out the prayer mat to perform his Isha prayer. Brother Muhammad Yusuf Akhtar Razvi took a prayer mat from the bag. Hazrat said to roll out the mat. Then Yusuf Razvi said, "Huzur the train has started moving." He rolled out the mat on behalf of Hazrat. Just as Hazrat stepped on the prayer mat, the train immediately stopped. Hazrat was standing to pray, it was very tight on the train. While looking at Hazrat's vulnerability, on the one hand was the beloved Mufti Shuaib Raza Qadiri and on the other was I, the writer, offering him minor support. While standing, Hazrat performed his Isha prayer with peace. Just as he finished his prayer, the train started moving. When Hazrat finished his prayer, he said, "Where's the train?" I, the writer, said, "Huzur, the train is still only on the platform." Hazrat said, "All praise to Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى, the prayer has been performed within its time." [1, p. 75]

17. The doctor's report is false

After nearly a month of traveling, Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ returned to Bareilly Sharif. Time passed until on July 25, 2015 after the Maghrib prayer he vomited continuously 4 times. The vomit was completely dark. The noble son Mawlana Asjad Raza Khan Saheb immediately called doctor Parvez Nuri Siddiqi to come. He did a check-up. To take the blood results, he sent it to the centre. He gave medicine and the medicine stopped the vomiting. It was Isha prayer around 10 a.m. when the doctor came. Concern was that Hazrat only ate half a roti, after that the whole day had passed while he ate nothing, and he started vomiting black. It was proposed to take him to Delhi hospital. Mawlana Asjad Miyan suggested Hazrat to go to Delhi. He replied, "I will pray." Hazrat performed his prayer. People from afar came to become his murid, so he met them and after that entered the inner chambers to rest. Asjad Miyan then went to Hazrat and told him to go to Delhi. So, said Hazrat, "My health is good, and now I will rest. The doctor's report is false."

Mawlana Asjad Miyan, Brother Danish Raza, and I, the writer, could not sleep all night, seized with concern. At nearly 1:30 a.m., two doctors came and suggested that he should be admit in the hospital. At 2 a.m., two doctors from Rampur came to do a check-up and took some blood for tests. The doctor came back with the test results, but the report showed no clear results. So, he suggested to come to his hospital. So, we took him from Sawdagran to his hospital. His blood pressure and sugars and so forth were all tested. After being in the hospital he returned home on July 27. After the test results, the doctor said that Hazrat's health has improved tremendously.

During this serious illness, Hazrat always prayed while standing, doing all obligations and Sunnats while standing. Sometimes it took some time for him to get up because of weakness, but then Brother Yusuf Akhtar would

give him a little support. His daily activities and meditations had not changed at all. Mawlana Ashiq Hussayn Kashmiri and Mufti Shuaib Raza Qadiri would still dictate his Fatawa's. [1, p. 78]

18. Special skills in different languages

Mumtaz al-Muhaddithin Allamah Ziya al-Mustafa al-Qadiri writes,

Allah ﷻ has endowed him [Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ] special skills in different languages. The Urdu language is though his mother tongue and the Arabic language is its religiosity language, in both languages he has in-depth expertise, which is clearly justified in his Urdu and Arabic prophetic praise poetry. His poetry in prophetic praise is truly in fluency, beauty, and imagination of prophetic praise, no less than the poetry of a skilled teacher. His style in the traditional and modern Arabic language is that of a learned expert. His preaching, poetry and translations are heavily viewed by the literature of a well-learned Arabic literalist. During his studies in Jamia al-Azhar, when he let the Shuyukh of the Azhar hear his Arabic speech, they would be amazed at the order and elegance of the speech and say, "This speech is not perceived at all as that of a non-Arab!" This incident comes from myself that in Zimbabwe an Egyptian Shaykh, when he heard the verses of his Hamd he became very happy and asked for a copy. I have seen Hazrat in England, America, South Africa, Zimbabwe and so on giving spontaneous English speeches. And the educated people there also heard his praises and also heard of him that Hazrat has mastery in the classical style of the English language. [2, p. 35]

19. Muhaddith al-Kabir Allamah Ziya al-Mustafa praising Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ

Muhaddith al-Kabir Allamah Ziya al-Mustafa Amjadi said in his speech,

“By studying the verdicts [fatwa] that flowed from the pen of Allamah Azhari, it seems that we are reading the writings of Ala Hazrat Imam Ahmad Raza رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ. This is apparent in his writings that were full of proofs and references.” [2, p. 37]

20. The jeep rolled over three times

Qazi al-Quzzat Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ, Janasheen of Mufti al-Azam Hazrat Allamah Mufti Akhtar Raza al-Qadiri al-Azhari was invited by Muhaqiq-e-Asr, Mubaligh-e-Maslak-e-Raza, the khalifa of Huzur Mufti al-Azam Hazrat Allamah Mawlana Mufti al-Haj Sayyid Shahid Ali Hussayni Razvi Nuri to his Madrassa in Rampur for an organized event.

Many people came and pledged allegiance at Huzur Taj al-Shariah's رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ blessed hands. After a while, he entered an open jeep as he left the place. In the jeep were Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ, Hazrat Allamah Mufti Sayyid Shahid Ali Razvi, the driver and six other people. On the way they passed the edge of a dune. As the jeep drove over the paved road, the bricks suddenly fell off the rim, causing the jeep to lose its balance and turn sideways. The jeep rolled over three times and as it reached a hole in the dune nearly 17.5 meters deep, it stood surprisingly upright.

The other people in the jeep were amazed. The jeep just stopped on the ground, people saw that Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ was sitting calmly in a prostration state. After a moment he said, “Sayyid Saheb, are you okay? You are not injured, are you?” Hazrat Allamah Sayyid Shahid Ali Razvi immediately said, “No Huzur! I'm fine, I'm not injured.” So, he asked,

“Hazrat are you, all right?” Hazrat said, “By the grace of Allah, I am well.” None of the people in this incident were in any significant pain, everyone was fine. Although the rear roof of the jeep was broken so it was not recognizable that this was a jeep. This was a manifest charisma of Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ.

Hazrat Allamah Mufti Sayyid Shahid Ali Saheb Razvi states, “The moment the jeep turned sideways Hazrat Taj al-Shariah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ then started to invoke ‘Ya Allah, Ya Rahim’, and when the jeep stood still, he was in a state of prostration [*sajdah*].”

Here it is also worth noting that Sayyid Saheb Qibla also recited some influential invocation during this terrifying incident. [1, p. 70]

Every time I [Ahmad Raza] met Mufti Sayyid Shahid Ali رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ, my heart bowed to his grandeur while I remembered Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى, he is certainly one of the intimate friends of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى.

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